Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00305 011010Z ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 MCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 EB-08 AID-05 L-03 SS-15 TRSE-00 COME-00 /069 W

-----072859 011534Z /70

R 280400Z FEB 78 FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4102

CONFIDENTIAL MUSCAT 0305

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: MASS. MU

SUBJECT: OMANI PURCHASE OF NIGHT VISION EQUIPMENT

- 1. REQUEST EMBASSY BE ADVISED STATUS OF RECENT APPLICATION FOR LICENSING OF EXPORT TO OMAN OF "STAR-TRON" NIGHT VISION EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURED BY SMITH AND WESSON COMPANY. WE BELIEVE APPLICATION WAS SUBMITTED WITHIN PAST TWO MONTHS BY INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTORS, INC., 7290 S.W. 42ND STREET, P.O. BOX 7566, LUDLAM BRANCH, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33155 (PHONE: 264-9321). WE DO NOT KNOW MONETARY VALUE OR SIZE OF ORDER.
- 2. EXISTENCE OF THIS TRANSACTION WAS BROUGHT TO EMBASSY ATTENTION BY OMAN INTERNATIONAL GROUP COMPANY (OIGC), A LOCAL FIRM WHICH APPARENTLY HAS SOME ASSOCIATIONS WITH LONHRO OF U.K.
 A LOCALLY RESIDENT BRITISH EMPLOYEE OF LONHRO SECONDED TO OIGC HAS ASKED IF EMBASSY MIGHT EXPEDITE SATE DEPARTMENT CONSIDERATION OF THIS APPLICATION. HE STATES THE EQUIPMENT IS FOR USE BY OMAN RESEARCH DEPARTMENT (ORD), WHICH IS OMANGOV'S OFFICIAL MILITARY AND CIVIL INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT. HE STATES EQUIPMENT IS FOR SECURITY USE INSIDE OMAN, MAINLY IF NOT EXCLUSIVELY IN DHOFAR, BY THE ORD. HE PRESENTED CORRESPONDENCE FROM INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTORS, INC., TO SUBSTANTIATE HIS STATEMENTS. FROM THIS CORRESPONDENCE IT APPEARS THAT AS OF LAST WEEK THE MIAMI FIRM WAS CONCERNED STATE DEPARTMENT CONSIDERATION MIGHT BE VERY CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MUSCAT 00305 011010Z

TIME CONSUMING.

- 3. EMBASSY CAN CONFIRM FROM INDEPENDENT CONTACT WITH ORD THAT IT HAS PLACED SUCH AN ORDER FROM THE U.S. AND WISHES DELIVERY SOON AS POSSIBLE.
- 4. IS ANY FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED FROM EMBASSY OR FROM

| OMANGOV OR ITS AGENCIES BEFORE DECISION CAN BE MADE ON THIS |
|---|
| ORDER? WHAT ARE PROSPECTS OF EARLY FAVORABLE DECISION? |
| WOLLE |

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PROCUREMENT, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, SURVEILLANCE

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 28 feb 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MUSCAT00305
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a Enclosure: DG ALTERED Executive Order: GS

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D780093-1179

Format: TEL From: MUSCAT

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978024/aaaaacrq.tel

Line Count: 65 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: a30408d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION PM

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 23 jun 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3555402 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: OMANI PURCHASE OF NIGHT VISION EQUIPMENT

TAGS: MASS, MU To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a30408d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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